

Message Text

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72

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C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 0433

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIA AND ITS SECURITY COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

REF: VIENNA 9989

1. IN COURSE OF ROUTINE DISCUSSION WITH POLCOUN JANUARY 16 CONCERNING AUSTRIAN ACTIVITIES IN UN (BEING REPORTED SEPARATELY), FOREIGN OFFICE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS DIVISION HEAD WEIDINGER INDICATED THAT AUSTRIAN UN PERMREP JANKOWITSCH WOULD BE IN VIENNA SECOND WEEK OF FEBRUARY FOR CONSULTATIONS RE ASSESSMENT OF 28TH UNGA AND AUSTRIA ROLE THEREIN AND PREPARATION FOR NEXT ROUND OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS.

2. WEIDINGER OBSERVED THAT IN HIS VIEW AUSTRIA HAD TAKEN MAJOR BUFFETING IN SECURITY COUNCIL LAST YEAR, HAVING BEEN SUBJECTED TO COMPETING DEMANDS AND PRESSURES FROM PERMANENT AND NON-PERMANENT MEMBERS OF SECURITY COUNCIL. THIS BUFFETING REPORTEDLY HAD GENERATED IN SOME CASES MAJOR DIFFERENCES OF VIEWS BETWEEN
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AUSTRIAN UN DELEGATION AND FOREIGN OFFICE
ON HOW AUSTRIA SHOULD VOTE. IN LATTER

CONTEXT, JANKOWITSCH, AS NOTED PARA 2B REFTTEL, EXERCISES GREAT DEAL OF INITIATIVE AND AUTONOMY IN WORKING UP AUSTRIAN UN POSITIONS. WEIDINGER'S COMMENTS ON TRIALS OF AUSTRIA IN SECURITY COUNCIL ARENA SEEM TO SUGGEST THAT MORE THAN ROUTINE REVIEW OF AUSTRIAN ORIENTATION IN UN MAY BE IN OFFING.

3. ACTION REQUESTED; USUN MAY WISH TO CONSIDER UNDERTAKING SPECIAL LOBBYING EFFORT RE USG

VIEWS ON ISSUES FOR UPCOMING ROUND OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS WITH JANKOWITSCH PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR VIENNA IN EARLY FEBRUARY. EMBASSY PREPARED TO MAKE SIMILAR EFFORT WITH APPROPRIATE LEVELS IN FOREIGN OFFICE BEFORE GOA POSITIONS ESTABLISHED, IF DESIRED BY DEPARTMENT AND IF EMBASSY PROVIDED WITH NECESSARY BACKGROUND MATERIAL. HUMES

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